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STADIS////////////////////////////////////
FOR GILMORE

FOLLOWING REPEAT WARSAW 9083 ACTION SECSTATE 22 DEC 76

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 9083

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FOR EUR/EE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: PFOR, ECON, PL
SUBJECT: RFE BROADCASTING; EMPHASIS ON MICHAEL KALECKI

1. AMBASSADOR DAVIES AND OTHER EMBASSY OFFICERS HAVE RECENTLY
READ GEORGE R. FEIWEL'S EXCELLENT BOOK, "THE INTELLECTUAL
CAPITAL OF MICHAEL KALECKI: A STUDY IN ECONOMIC THEORY AND
POLICY" (UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE PRESS, KNOXVILLE, 1975).
THE BOOK'S FOREWORD WAS WRITTEN BY PROFESSOR LAWRENCE R.
KLEIN, WHO WRITES THAT KALECKI "WAS AN IMPORTANT ECONOMIC
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THINKER OF OUR GENERATION", AND THAT MUCH OF WHAT HE HAD TO
SAY ABOUT THE POLAND OF POST-1956 IS RELEVANT TO TODAY'S
SITUATION. WE RECOMMEND THAT THE DEPARTMENT BRING FEIWEL'S
BOOK TO THE ATTENTION OF BIB, WITH THE SUGGESTION THAT RFE'S
POLISH SERVICE DRAW ON IT AND KALECKI'S WRITINGS IN GENERAL
IN DISCUSSING RECENT CHANGES IN POLISH ECONOMIC POLICY.

2. DEALING CHRONOLOGICALLY WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF KALECKI'S THOUGHT, FEIWEL DOCUMENTS HIS "COMPLETE ANTICIPATION OF KEYNES' 'GENERAL THEORY'" AS KLEIN PUTS IT. WHAT IS ESPECIALLY RELEVANT IS FEIWEL'S DESCRIPTION OF KALECKI'S ELABORATION OF THE THEORY OF GROWTH UNDER SOCIALISM, AS EXEMPLIFIED PARTICULARLY IN THE FIFTEEN-YEAR (1960-75) PERSPECTIVE PLAN POST-OCTOBER 1956, POLAND, DRAFTED DURING KALECKI'S CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE COMMISSION FOR THE PERSPECTIVE PLAN. FEIWEL DRAWS CONSEQUENCES IN THE FINAL THREE CHAPTERS FROM KALECKI'S EFFORT TO CONSTRUCT A PLAN WHICH PUTS CONSUMPTION AND A RISE IN THE STANDARD OF LIVING FIRST. THERE ARE RECOMMENDATIONS AND JUDGMENTS BY KALECKI IN THESE CHAPTERS DIRECTLY RELEVANT TO THE CURRENT PROBLEMS OF THE POLISH REGIME AND ITS PLANNERS.

3. COMMENT. WE BELIEVE RFE'S POLISH SERVICE COULD MAKE EFFECTIVE USE OF FEIWEL'S WORK, NOT ONLY TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON KALECKI (WHOSE WORK HAS BEEN LARGELY IGNORED IN POLAND AS WELL AS IN THE WEST), BUT ALSO TO ENCOURAGE THE GIEREK REGIME TO CONTINUE ON THE PATH WHICH IT APPARENTLY HAS AGAIN CHOSEN -- INCREASED CONSUMERISM. IN THIS CONNECTION, RFE MIGHT INTERVIEW PROFESSOR KLEIN AND DISCUSS WITH HIM KALECKI'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO ECONOMIC THEORY AND HIS PRESCRIPTIONS FOR POLISH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. COMPARISONS COULD BE DRAWN BETWEEN THE PAST AND THE PRESENT, USING PRAISE WHEN WARRANTED, TO ENCOURAGE THE GIEREK LEADERSHIP FURTHER ALONG THE PRESENT ECONOMIC COURSE. END COMMENT

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UNQUOTE ROBINSON.

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